

## Senate Resolution 596

By: Senators Murphy of the 27th, Mullis of the 53rd, Douglas of the 17th, Hooks of the 14th, Whitehead, Sr. of the 24th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing Georgia volunteers of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Georgia is the home of the fourth largest port on the Atlantic east coast, over  
4 350 miles of intercoastal waterways, 20 major inland lakes, five major rivers, and thousands  
5 of miles of smaller rivers; and

6 WHEREAS, hundreds of our fellow Georgians volunteer more than 15,000 hours each year  
7 to assist the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Georgia  
8 Department of Natural Resources in accomplishing missions of recreational boating safety  
9 and Coast Guard support with Maritime Homeland Security and other challenges that have  
10 emerged as a result of growing changes required in the post-9/11 era; and

11 WHEREAS, Georgia is home to the Seventh Coast Guard District, Divisions 2 and 10, and  
12 the 8th Coast Guard District, Flotillas 81 and 83; and

13 WHEREAS, these members contribute valuable time, talent, and resources in the area of  
14 harbor and inland lake safety patrols, vessel safety checks, safe boating courses, search and  
15 rescue, and marine environmental protection; Auxiliary Air Squadron Coast Patrols; Crew  
16 Augmentation to USCG Air Station Savannah, USCG Station Tybee, USCG Cutter Tarpon,  
17 and USCG Station Brunswick as Radio Watch Standers, Boat Crew, Engineer, Cutter Crew,  
18 and Cutter Rescue Swimmer; and

19 WHEREAS, while boating is a marvelous source of recreation to all Georgia citizens, it can  
20 be a risky sport to those who are not properly prepared; and

21 WHEREAS, members of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary devote thousands of hours to  
22 training in order to better prepare the recreational boating public to be more aware of  
23 navigation rules and obey the nautical "rules of the road"; and

1 WHEREAS, of particular importance in the overall boater education mission of the U.S.  
2 Coast Guard Auxiliary Membership each year is to reduce the loss of lives of drowning  
3 victims who are not wearing a life jacket; and

4 WHEREAS, Georgia Volunteer Members of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary were credited  
5 during 2006 with five lives saved, more than \$500,000.00 in property saved, and more than  
6 200 public education classes given, approximately 2,000 vessel safety checks, and countless  
7 hours in harbor and inland lake safety patrols.

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
9 recognize the Georgia volunteer members of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary and  
10 commend their tireless service as the civilian component of the United States Coast Guard  
11 and the United States Department of Homeland Security.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
13 to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the District 7 and District 8 Commodores  
14 of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.